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This is amusing rhetoric for a great conservative paper like the *Spectator*. Only an Englishman who felt squeezed in his colonial ambitions could have written thus. Europeans have been "swarming out" and "debouching" and "overspilling" into the United States by hundreds of thousands every year for three generations. We have room for a hundred millions more of them, of the respectable ones. So far they have been well content to conduct themselves according to the "social organization" of the bees in our hive. Why should they not continue to do so? Those who have gone into South America have shown no particular disposition to hoist European flags, and set up European social organizations. They have done exactly the contrary. It is the fellows who have stayed at home on the other side who have wanted to do the flag-hoisting. There is plenty of room in our "empty" quarter of the world, North America and South America, for all the people that are likely to "debouch" from Europe for a long time to come, and we shall not have to fight "the armies of the combined continent" of the old world in order to keep them out. We shall be glad to have them, and they will find a congenial and prosperous home, even in South America, whose social organizations, which are constantly improving, are likely to prove quite as attractive as the old ones which they only too gladly leave behind. We hope the *Spectator's* benevolent soul may not be vexed by any more such hideous nightmares of coming war. The "conquest," if any is made, will be altogether a peaceful one, to which nobody will object. We do not think that even Englishmen are likely to go in any smaller numbers to either Guiana or Venezuela when they cease to carry the boundary line in their pockets. If they go in sufficient numbers to change the civilization in Venezuela into an English one by natural processes, the United States will not fire a shell to protect the South American republic from such a conquest. That is the kind of conquest in which every American believes.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

It is reported that the French Cabinet have decided to introduce into the Chamber of Deputies a bill providing for an increase of the army by an addition of 160,000 men. If it is true that such action is contemplated, it is deplorable in the extreme. It is, however, exactly in line with the policy which all the great nations of Europe are following. It is surprising, from this standpoint, that since the additions to the German army France has not moved for this increase before now. If the French army is given this additional strength, it will not be long before Germany will bring hers up to the same level. All the other nations will follow as best they can, and we shall have another general dose of one of the worst evils with

which the world has ever been cursed. And then France will have to begin over again! It is all supreme madness, stupendous folly! She will be weaker and more unsafe after the increase than she is now. We hope that for the sake of their reputation for sense, if nothing else, the Deputies will smother this Cabinet proposition to death in its infancy. Every battalion added to her forces is another step toward ultimate desolation and ruin, for herself and for Europe. The day of reckoning will come at last, swift and terrible as the death angel, the beating of whose wings one can already almost hear. Poor blind, infatuated humanity! Poor misguided France!

In his recent message President Cleveland speaks of the rapid progress of the coast fortifications toward completion as "peculiarly gratifying." One hundred and thirty-eight high power guns, ten rapid fire guns, and eighty rifled mortars have been completed. Besides these two hundred more are in process of construction, making four hundred and twenty-eight coast guns and mortars. One hundred and twenty-nine gun carriages have been constructed or are in process of construction, ninety of which are on the disappearing principle. The number of mortar carriages is one hundred and fifty-two. This all completed will make about *one-fifth* of the comprehensive system which has been adopted for the coast defences which it will take six years yet to complete. "In less time than that, however, we shall have attained a marked degree of security." Security from what and from whom? Does any body really believe that when all this enormous outlay is made and these so-called defences completed we shall be one whit more secure than we have been or should be without them? In all sincerity we do not. The President says that of all forms of military preparation coast defence alone is essentially pacific in its nature. But is this true? It is true that coast defence is not aggressive, but it is built up on suspicion and distrust, which are not pacific dispositions but tend to strengthen and develop the very things which they would guard against. All this great system of coast defences will probably be entirely useless by the time it is completed. By that time, from present indications, military ballooning will probably have become so perfect that these great coast forts will have to look up with helpless eyes and see quietly floating in, with their dynamite air ships, over the seaboard cities, some of those awful enemies of our country of which the war and navy departments and their brethren the Jingoists think there are so many. Then we shall have to back out and start over again and expend our millions anew on some sort of defences up in the air. If coast defences alone of all forms of military preparation are essentially pacific in their nature and "thoroughly in accord with all the traditions of our national diplomacy," then, following the President's philosophy, the govern-

ment ought to abandon all other forms. If this were once done, coast defences would soon appear as useless and even ludicrous as they really are in the present state of the world, from whatever standpoint you view them.

The question of the duel is becoming more and more serious in Germany and Austria, as those know who have followed the course of recent events there touching this subject. In the November number of *Die Waffen Nieder*, the Baroness von Suttner gives an account of the refusal of an officer of the Austrian army to fight a duel. He is the father of a family, a man of culture and a Christian believer. Being challenged, for some trivial reason, to fight a duel, he pointedly refused to put his life and that of the challenger in jeopardy at the point of a sword or the mouth of a pistol. He was promptly dismissed from the army. As he had acted according to the teachings of Christianity, he had recourse to dignitaries of the church, expecting that they would assist him in finding a position where he could earn a living. Though he is a man of culture, capable of filling well a number of positions, his efforts to find a situation have proved fruitless. He has appealed to the Baroness herself, asking if the friends of peace cannot help him to find a situation. She has warmly recommended his case to them. And well she might! In reference to the case she writes the following suggestive words, suggestive in more directions than one:

“Now there are, beside the Church, another sort of people, who condemn the duel, namely the adherents and supporters of the peace movement. These proceed upon the principle that the appeal to force for the determination of a dispute or to atone for an injury is wrong, and between nations as well as between individuals it must be avoided and done away with. He who wishes to see war, the legalized duel between nations, done away with, must reprobate and seek to eradicate this war of individuals, which is still more stupid because it is carried on voluntarily and without any justifiable purpose.

He who, through refusal to submit to this wicked arbitrament has on his part practically rejected it, who has done this knowing that he must sacrifice his social position and atone for his act by giving up his office and standing, is not only an adherent of the principle of peace, he is also one of its heroes and martyrs. He also has a claim to recognition and to the greatest possible assistance on the part of the peace societies.”

We wish the Baroness might have met some of the more than twenty millions of Christians in this country, every one of whom condemns the duel. But the war-duel of nations! alas for many of our Christians, too!

The London Peace Society held its annual autumnal meeting at Manchester on the 3d of November. The *Herald of Peace* for December gives an interesting report of the proceedings. At the day Conferences held morning and afternoon remarks were made by Mr. Theodore Neild,

Rev. Dr. Mackennal, Mrs. Ramsay, Miss Irvine, Mr. W. Goldthorpe, Mr. Thomas Crosfield, Rev. J. Freeston, Mr. Thomas Snape and others. Papers were read by Dr. Darby on “The Progress of Peace,” by Rev. S. Pearson on “The Pulpit and Peace Principles,” and by Mr. A. H. Montgomery, Esq., on “The Limits of Arbitration.” At the public meeting in the evening Mr. C. E. Schwann, M. P., who had just returned from the Inter-parliamentary Conference at Buda-Pesth, presided, and made an address showing the “immense growth” of the principle of arbitration, the practical character of the work of the Peace Society, and the great need of further vigorous effort. The principal address of the evening was given by Dr. Robert Spence Watson, of Newcastle-on-Tyne. After alluding to the great influence on England of the peace men of the Manchester school, he showed that the country had gotten from her Jingoism nothing but a “splendid isolation,” that she had never been so weak and powerless for good. He maintained that England had no right to be in the Soudan, making war on weak peoples; that in spite of the enormous increase of the empire there had been very little recent increase in trade; that Jingoism had given them “more power for evil, less power for good, more anxiety for trade, and less anxiety about the lives of men, women and children.” Against this was to be set the advance of the principle of arbitration, which was now the work of great lawyers and statesmen. “It was worth while to have lived to the present day to have the possibility of the treaty between the United States and this country brought as near to us as it was at the present moment.” Mr. Snape followed Dr. Watson. He commented on the peculiar fact that while the former Jingoism were the advocates of peace, the former advocates of peace were now calling for war. He adversely criticised the speech of Mr. Gladstone in which he urged England to interfere single-handed in the Armenian crisis. Mr. Gladstone, who had been one of the instigators of the Crimean War, was not a safe guide to follow.

The meetings were on the whole very successful and received very favorable notice from the Manchester press.

Les Etats-Unis d'Europe contains, in a recent issue, some very pertinent remarks touching the peace recently signed between Italy and Abyssinia, as follows:

“The peace which has just been signed between Italy and the Negus of Abyssinia is peculiar in this that the African Monarch, a conqueror and that too in a defensive war, has been able to give to Europe, supposed to be more civilized than he, the spectacle of a generosity, magnanimity and self-restraint at which the Italians themselves are astonished. He might have exacted a great sum for the liberation of the prisoners—a whole army of them—he might have released them only in successive groups; he might have required the previous payment of

a ransom; have kept them as hostages until the ransom was paid; he might have increased his demand and insisted on reimbursement for the support of all the men. But, behold! O, admirable spectacle! he restores the poor soldiers to liberty, to their country, to their weeping mothers, without asking anything in advance, leaving it to the vanquished to determine the amount due to him, relying on their loyalty and good faith. Such morality is no longer known to us, and we in Europe were no longer accustomed to such magnanimity. What a lesson for us all! On receiving the news of the peace, Italy felt a deep thrill of satisfaction. Only the followers of Chrispi, who brought on the war, insisted that this peace was a national shame and that Italy had fallen subject to Abyssinia. The military class also, with more sincerity than the partisans of Chrispi had, were rendered desolate over this peace which the mothers praised and the public and Parliament rejoiced over. Touching letters from Menelik to the pope, to the president of the French republic, to the King of Italy himself—which have been published—have brought him universal commendation. It is from the South to-day that light is coming to us.”

Concord says: “We deeply regret to announce the death of Sir Edmund Hornby, whose name will be familiar to our readers from his communications to *Concord*. Sir Edmund Hornby died on Tuesday, the 17th ult. (November), at Rapallo, in Italy, whither he had gone to spend the winter. Only a few days before leaving England—not more than a fortnight before his death—he had called on the Secretary of our Association, when he appeared to be in his usual good health and spirits. During the last few years of his life Sir Edmund Hornby had devoted most of his spare time to the arbitration question, more especially to the preparation of a plan for the establishment of a permanent Tribunal and College of International Law, many of the results of which have appeared in these pages. It is needless to point out the great advantage that it has been to our movement to have so able and experienced a jurist devoting his great abilities to the question; and his name will certainly go down to posterity as a worthy fellow-worker on the same lines as Bluntschli, Leone Levi, David Dudley Field and Hobhouse. In manner he was distinguished by great geniality and humor, and it will be long before the staff of our Association forget the pleasant talks they have had with him in our office, to which he generally paid a visit when in London. It only remains to add that no man living was more keenly desirous of seeing a permanent tribunal of arbitration established with a view to the prevention of the savagery and waste of war.”

We are pleased to see that during the week of prayer, which will be going on when this number of the *ADVOCATE* is published, the cause of peace and arbitration is to have a day. The Evangelical Alliance, which arranged the program, has set apart Wednesday, Jan. 6, as a day

of prayer for nations and their rulers. It is suggested that praise be offered for the general prevalence of peace; for the happy issue of the Venezuelan dispute; for the progress of arbitration.—Matt. v: 9. Prayer is to be made for all in authority; for courts of justice and legislatures that righteousness may prevail in them; for the complete triumph of the principle of arbitration; for temperance and all other needed reforms; for the brotherhood of men, that all sectionalism, class prejudices and race antipathies may cease.

The unfortunate conflict between the Italian colony in Africa and the Kingdom of Abyssinia is ended. A treaty of peace has been signed and ratified. The Italian government has renounced all pretensions to a protectorate over Abyssinia which it had claimed under the treaty of Ucielli. The boundaries between Abyssinia and the Italian colony are to remain as they were before the war, and are to be more exactly defined. Italy is to indemnify Abyssinia for the support and transportation of the Italian prisoners, who are to be liberated at once. The treaty of peace is to be followed by a treaty of commerce and friendship, which it is to be hoped both nations will faithfully keep. Italy is not likely to undertake again the scheme of colonial extension in the direction of King Menelik's territories. The war was condemned all along by a large party in the peninsula. The chief disgrace of Italy in the matter was, not that her army was defeated and her military prestige lowered, but that she went into the conflict at all. It is a sign of the changed spirit of our time that such is the feeling so largely among the Italian people themselves.

The *Herald of Peace* says that “the French Government have just reiterated their opinion that Great Britain is lacking in good faith, by her continued occupation of Egypt. As long as this continues, there is not likely to be a cordial understanding between the English and French Governments. And the position in Egypt is not worth such a price as this. Mr. Frederic Harrison, who has lately visited Egypt, speaks highly of the British administration there, but considers it to be, nevertheless, entirely expedient that the British occupation should cease; for it is the gain of a loss.”

The Council General of the Department of the Seine in France has invited the French Government to take the initiative in calling a European Congress with a view of bringing about the progressive disarmament of Europe. General Türr, who presided at the recent Peace Congress at Buda-Pesth, and Prince Goluchowsky have just founded a peace society in Nice, for that city and its environments. The advocates of peace in France are doing energetic work in many parts of the country.

Pastor Otto Umfrid of Stuttgart, Germany, whose admirable article on the Frankfurt Peace we published in a late number of the *ADVOCATE* has recently published in *Die Gegenwart* of Berlin an able paper on "The Peace Movement and the Future of Europe." We are under obligations to him for a copy of it.

The police of Berlin have decided that the "Verein für Friedenspropaganda" (Union for Peace Propaganda) is a political club and that therefore women can not belong to it. The ejected women have formed a peace society of their own to be called the "Deutscher Frauen-Friedensbund."

A Society has been formed whose purpose it is to bring about more friendly relations between Great Britain and France. Its organization was due to the initiative of Mr. Philip Stanhope and Mr. Thomson, members of Parliament. The President of the Society is Lord Dufferin, former English Ambassador to Paris. The Society is called "Entente Cordiale."

The annual meeting of the Austrian Peace Society took place December 12, in the Hôtel Continental at Vienna. The Society has just lost by death one of the members of its Managing Committee, Count Hoyos. The Society receives a legacy of 2500 florins from his estate. The Austrian Chamber of Deputies has voted in favor of the insertion of an arbitral clause in all treaties of commerce with other nations, and also to instruct the government to study the question of permanent treaties of arbitration. This action was taken in opposition to the wish of the President of the Ministry, and on the motion of Baron Pirquet and Mr. Russ, two members of the Inter-parliamentary Peace Union.

The reports that Denmark had entered into a secret alliance with Russia have proved to be unfounded. A resolution was adopted unanimously by the Danish parliament on the 3d of December expressing its expectation that in case of any conflict between other states the Danish Government would direct its efforts exclusively to the maintenance of the neutrality of the country.

At the American Congress of Liberal Religious Societies, which met at Indianapolis, November 17th-19th, a resolution was adopted declaring in favor of international arbitration.

Here is the closing passage of Miss Willard's noble address at the National Convention of the W. C. T. U. at St. Louis:

"Did you read about the Czar, the great Czar of Russia, and his coronation at Moscow, and how every single

step that he took was guarded by unnumbered soldiery and secret police? and did you read about the soft-hearted foolish peasantry, who, to the number of thirty thousand, crowded on the plain near by to get a gilded pewter cup with the Czar's initials on it, and nobody was watching? There was no police force set to guard *them*, and the government quite forgot about having soldiers to keep them from crowding too much and hurting themselves or from anybody molesting another, and those who were there told us that the moaning of the six thousand under the feet of those who were moving on was like the sound of the waves in a storm. One poor peasant, in giving his account, said: "I knew as they pushed me forward, I knew that many times I was standing on the soft body of a woman, but I could not help myself." It is said that at a little distance, as there were no shrieks, for it was suffocation that killed most of the poor, down trodden peasants, the moaning sound was like the deep tones of an æolian; it was like what we think might be the cry of humanity, if only the spiritual ear were open to hear its pitiful strains, and as I came in at the opening of this session I stopped with dear Anna Gordon and said: "Listen!" A sweet, chirpy sound, mother with her children, sister talking to sister, the convention twittering to itself! And I thought: "Yes, those two sounds, the deep heart-break of humanity at Moscow and the tender, motherly tones of our blessed white-ribboners must come together in God's chorus of redemption, and I said to myself, 'This is the age that does not forever keep talking about coming to Christ as the Saviour, but talks about *going with Christ* out to the suffering and forgotten and tempted and destroyed, and then I said to myself, 'Oh, let us take the pierced hand; let us follow the white figure of the ages; let us all come into line with Him, *going with Christ*, and by His grace may it be truly said of us when we have worked our little work and passed away, '*These are they who heard the cry of the world.*'" It is only the spiritual ear that can hear that cry. I can wish for myself or for you nothing more heavenly than that, forgetting the dissonant noises which are round about us, we might come up to the level where we can hear the cry of the world and help to hush it into peace, as a mother soothes the baby on her breast."

A part of Mrs. Hannah J. Bailey's report on peace and arbitration at the W. C. T. U. Convention at St. Louis is as follows:

"This country is governed by public sentiment. The work of this department is to cultivate a sentiment that will demand a cessation of war and protest against the practice of anything that may have a tendency to create or encourage the war spirit. To this end much literature has been published and distributed; lectures given, newspapers and new books furnished with Peace articles; Peace Bands organized; a juvenile paper, the *Acorn*, published; sermons preached; petitions circulated and personal work done. Peace Day (the third Sabbath in December) was more generally observed than ever before since it was instituted.

It is an encouraging fact that the Boys' Brigade, which has engaged so much of our attention and been an obstacle to our work for children, has, apparently, nearly run its course and many churches have disbanded it. It

had no place on the program of the International Sunday-school convention held in Boston last June. Much peace literature was distributed there by one of our state superintendents of this department.

We are still threatened with that other dangerous element, the military drill in schools. After Senate Bill No. 1055 and others were introduced last winter, a memorial signed by our national president, corresponding secretary and your superintendent was submitted to the United States Congress, through the kindness of Hon. Nelson Dingley, of Maine.

Moral sentiment in favor of arbitration and compromise is advancing slowly but surely. The time is coming on apace when the gospel of the Prince of Peace will prevail throughout the earth and there will be both a brotherhood of men and a brotherhood of nations, all under the Fatherhood and government of God."

On June 20, 1895, at Amapala, the republics of Honduras Nicaragua and Salvador, by their representatives entered into an agreement for the formation of a new republic. The stipulations have been carried out and the Greater Republic of Central America is now a reality. President Cleveland officially recognized the new republic on the 23d ult., and in receiving its minister took occasion to express the hope that Costa Rico and Guatemala might soon become members of the new confederation. The governments of both these countries are favorable to the union, but cannot act without the approval of the legislatures. The Constitution of the new republic provides for the dropping of the word "greater" as soon as these two states enter into the Union. The new Diet has exclusive control of all foreign relations. This voluntary consolidation of the Central American States must inevitably result not only in greater peace on the isthmus, which has been the seat of so much strife and bloodshed, but in greater material prosperity also.

A correspondent in Rome of the London *Chronicle* has telegraphed that it is rumored that the European powers generally will give adherence to the arbitration treaty between the United States and Great Britain, and that Italy will be the first nation to signify its official approval. This is probably nothing more than a rumor, though it is not improbable that the Italian government is seriously thinking of asking to become a party to the treaty. The arbitration movement has made great progress in Italy. The government has already secured the insertion of an arbitral clause in many of its most important commercial treaties. More than a hundred members of the Parliament are already actively connected with the Interparliamentary Peace Union, and the numerous peace associations all over the peninsula are carrying on a vigorous campaign of education. There is no reason why the Italian government should not at once enter into treaty obligations to arbitrate all its differences with the United States and Great Britain.

Affairs in Cuba have given rise to much excitement during the month. The circumstances of Maceo's death have not yet been determined. In fact, it is not certain that he is dead. The latest information is that he is alive in a hospital and recovering from the effects of his wounds. Whether he was shot through treachery or in open fight, is also in doubt. The report that he had been treacherously ensnared and killed caused great indignation in this country, and in consequence many have offered their services for the Cuban cause. Filibusters continue to land supplies and men in Cuba, and neither our government nor Spain seems able to prevent it. Little is known of the location and movements of Gomez. General Weyler continues his operations in Pinar del Rio. He claims to have the province nearly cleared of insurgents. But some of the Spanish papers declare that he spends his time chiefly in killing *pacificos* (peaceful citizens), and threats are made of having him recalled for inefficiency. It is doubtful if he has made any progress in the suppression of the insurrection. There have been rumors of agreements between the United States and Spain to give peace and reforms to Cuba, but they are denied. Nothing is certain except that the bloody, beastly business of killing and burning goes on and the "Pearl of the Antilles" is turned into a veritable pit of demons.

An International Private Law Treaty, relating to Civil Procedure, the first of its kind ever made, was signed at The Hague on the 14th of November, by the representatives of Holland, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Luxemburg, Spain, Portugal and Italy.

The 20th of December was observed as Peace Sunday in many parts of the land, and also in Great Britain and on the Continent of Europe. Large quantities of literature were sent out by the peace societies to ministers to assist them in preparation for the day.

EGYPT AND ENGLAND'S HONOR.

BY HODGSON PRATT.

I have been spending a fortnight in Paris, where I have enjoyed opportunities of conversation with several old friends and fellow-workers. They were all men of some mark, universally esteemed, and old admirers of England. Naturally we talked of the relations between the two countries, and I found all my interlocutors anxious to call my attention to the fact of the strong and almost universal animosity entertained in France at the present time towards our country. They deeply deplored the fact, and were most anxious as to its possible consequences. The British public is, of course, more or less aware of this unhappy state of things, but I hardly think they are much concerned about it, and they are too indifferent as to its causes, and as to the possibility of amelioration.

Surely this is a great error. Progress in the realiza-